

High School 2004 Released Prompt

Sentence Fluency

Prompt A

Your community is concerned about the lack of structured activities for youth after school and on weekends. The community leaders are planning the construction of a new youth center.

Write an essay to be read by community leaders convincing them what activities should be included at the youth center. Explain how the activities will have a positive influence on the youth.

Your essay should include:

- An introduction, body, and conclusion.
- A clearly stated position.
- Specific, appropriate reasons.
- Persuasive word choice.

Remember to edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

SENTENCE FLUENCY

<p>6</p> <p>The writing has an effective flow and rhythm. Sentences show a high degree of craftsmanship, with consistently strong and varied structure that makes expressive oral reading easy and enjoyable. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a natural, fluent sound; it glides along with one sentence flowing effortlessly into the next. • extensive variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text. • sentence structure that enhances meaning by drawing attention to key ideas or reinforcing relationships among ideas. • varied sentence patterns that create an effective combination of power and grace. • strong control over sentence structure; fragments, if used at all, work well. • stylistic control; dialogue, if used, sounds natural. 	<p>5</p> <p>The writing has an easy flow and rhythm. Sentences are carefully crafted, with strong and varied structure that makes expressive oral reading easy and enjoyable. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a natural, fluent sound; it glides along with one sentence flowing into the next. • variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text. • sentence structure that enhances meaning. • control over sentence structure; fragments, if used at all, work well. • stylistic control; dialogue, if used sounds natural. 	<p>4</p> <p>The writing flows; however, connections between phrases or sentences may be less than fluid. Sentence patterns are somewhat varied, contributing to ease in oral reading. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a natural sound; the reader can move easily through the piece, although it may lack a certain rhythm and grace. • some repeated patterns of sentence structure, length, and beginnings that may detract somewhat from overall impact. • strong control over simple sentence structures, but variable control over more complex sentences; fragments, if present, are usually effective. • occasional lapses in stylistic control; dialogue, if used, sounds natural for the most part, but may at times sound stilted or unnatural.
<p>3</p> <p>The writing tends to be mechanical rather than fluid. Occasional awkward constructions may force the reader to slow down or reread. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some passages that invite fluid oral reading; however, others do not. • some variety in sentences structure, length, and beginnings, although the writer falls into repetitive sentence patterns. • good control over simple sentence structures, but little control over more complex sentences; fragments, if present, may not be effective. • sentences which, although functional, lack energy. • lapses in stylistic control; dialogue, if used, may sound stilted or unnatural. 	<p>2</p> <p>The writing tends to be either choppy or rambling. Awkward constructions often force the reader to slow down or reread. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • significant portions of the text that are difficult to follow or read aloud. • sentence patterns that are monotonous (e.g., subject-verb or subject-verb-object). • a significant number of awkward, choppy, or rambling constructions. 	<p>1</p> <p>The writing is difficult to follow or to read aloud. Sentences tend to be incomplete, rambling, or very awkward. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • text that does not invite—and may not even permit—smooth oral reading. • confusing word order that is often jarring and irregular. • sentence structure that frequently obscures meaning. • sentences that are disjointed, confusing, or rambling.

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Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

The community leaders are planning the construction of new activities for the youth then weekends. Also have construct a youth center. The community leaders think that the youth need to have activities for not use drugs. I think that have activities is very good for the youth and community.

The community leaders need that the youth not use drugs. Also that not enter to the gangster. Those the community need that the youth have activities the weekends. The community leaders think that can protect to the youth to be activities then weekends.

The community leaders need that all youth to be activities every day. Because the youth can this think in the activities and not enter to the gangster. Also the youth have that think that have activities is very good for they and for the community. Also for this more concentration in his studying.

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The community leaders need to be this activities because the youth can have better his qualification. Also to be activities then weekends help to that the youth not enter to gangstas and not use drugs. Because the drugs destroy ~~the~~ life of the youth and also to the community. The youth need to be activities for that the community have a better progress.

The activities can positive influence to the youth with his qualification. Also that not use drugs and not enter to the gangstas. Also help to the community to have better student and also help to the community to have a better progress in the work.

The writing is difficult to follow... Sentences tend to be incomplete...or very awkward. Writing does not convey meaning because of ...confusing word order that is often jarring and irregular.



Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

The Community people should have some opinions about this program, should organize a meeting for adolescents, should be a place where you can make friends, just be a place where people go and like.

I think that the community leader should have opinions about this program because what if they do the center, and no one goes, they should have the opinion of adult people, kids, and teenagers they should ask them this question; what will be the activities you will like to make in this center, my opinion is that I'm in favor to put this center because sometimes you're sad or you need someone to talk to or just someone who can help you to understand the world.

They should have a meeting for adolescents so that they can say what they think they like, or is good for them, or to express their feelings.

A place where you can make more friends, so that you can play games with them, or by talking to each other, or you will

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FINAL COPY

like to make a friend so that they can help you in good or bad situations, and specially I will like to make more friends so that when you have a problem and you tell them your problem they can give you their opinion or they can tell you what they will do in your place.

I think that in this center they should organize field trips to different places like, Six Flags, The Grand Canyon or some other good place. They should do dances for teenagers, they should organize good, and funny games, should have computers and people to help you in homework or to help you to understand a good or bad situation. That's why I think that the community leaders should do this center. And if they ask our parents will say they are in favor because they want the best for us.

The writing tends to be...rambling. There is a ...significant number of awkward...rambling constructions. The writer joins unlike ideas without conjunctions or appropriate punctuation, creating confusion for the reader.



Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Have you ever wondered what your kids do when your not around? Well now their doing good, and they are safe, by including fun activities in the new youth center.

Activities would include basketball, racketball, tennis, volleyball and even karate. These are some inside activities where your children can be watched by the youth center workers, so you know the kids are really safe.

The youth center could also include outside activities such as baseball, tennis, football; and swimming. these activities could also be monitored by workers to ensure the safety of the children.

One of the reasons for including these activities would be to help protect the children of our community from kidnapers. Kidnappings are happening more and more often every year. Children that play at neighborhood parks are not as well protected as they could be involved in youth center activities.

The youth center could also keep kids away from drugs and alcohol. We don't want the children of our community drunk at the age of twelve or smoking marijuana; we don't want their brains fried before their an adult and can think by themselves.

Most of all the youth center activities would let children have fun and learn how to work as a team.

Writing

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Some activities even help children to learn how to protect themselves, such as karate.

Lets make this youth center every parent will want to bring their kid, lets make it a good invironment where kids are protected and take part in these great activities.

The repetition of sentence beginnings renders this paper ...mechanical rather than fluid. There are ...sentences which, although functional, lack energy. “One of the reasons for including these activities would be to help protect the children of our community from kidnappers” is a good example of fluency for reading; overall, the paper lacks this.

Writing

DIRECTIONS: Now write your final copy on the following two pages.

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A community center is a place where kids can go to have fun, or be with their friends. So, a community center needs certain qualities to fulfill its purpose. Children need a place to go to after school to relax and enjoy themselves, instead of going home and gazing at the T.V. all night.

A community center needs to have an area to go to do homework, or study for a test, because some children may not get it done at home, watching T.V. or playing video games. There also needs to be a place for kids to get tutoring. Just in case they are struggling in school and need a boost in order to get that A or that B. A library is helpful as well, for kids who need to do a bit of research for reports, or just to read a good book, because when we read, they learn new things, but they just don't realize it. A computer room is always helpful to get more in depth research.

Aside from education, a child needs to have fun. To accomplish that, there needs to be a sports program. Children could either join a team or play just to have fun. Sports such as basketball, football, and soccer are always a good choice. These sports develop speed, because they involve a lot of running. Accuracy, because in basketball, the ball is thrown into a hoop not much larger than the ball itself; in soccer, the ball is kicked into a goal; and in football, the ball is thrown to a man several yards away. Sports also allow kids to have fun and play with their friends. The community center also needs to include a place where kids can enjoy games, whether good or just for fun. Good logical games include: chess, puzzles, crosswords, and some computer games. Playing these games forces children to think, and if they play them enough, they will think more in school and be more successful. They need to play fun games that let them relax more, and just have fun. Fun games include: board games,

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cards, computer games, and internet games. Some children also enjoy doing arts and crafts. Arts and crafts lets children show their more creative side. Arts include painting, both with fingers and with brushes. Other arts include coloring or drawing. Coloring lets children experiment with colors. Drawing lets them create whatever comes to mind and also lets them express feelings, whether they are feelings of joy, anger, or maybe even love. There needs to be a creating area as well, for kids who prefer to express themselves in a way other than with crayons or paints. A lot of children enjoy gluing popsicle sticks together or twisting pipe cleaners into different shapes. Some children like to cut shapes out of construction paper and make designs. Some even like to make cross stitch. There is a wide variety of crafts for kids to enjoy, and would place them to do some.

A community center isn't just a place where children can play, it's also a place where children from all over can come together and be a community. And by so doing, teaching others to be part of the community.

Sentence patterns are somewhat varied, contributing to oral reading. While there is repetition of sentence patterns, evidence of control is emerging, for example, "A community center isn't just a place where children can play, it's also a place where children from all over can come and be a community." The writer has strong control over simple sentence structures, but variable control over more complex sentences as evidenced by the last sentence in paragraph 2.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

An active community youth center is what many communities lack these days. People are unaware of the positive impact a youth center has on the molding of a child. A youth center is a great place for a child to develop. This is where children learn many of the morals they will need to carry through adulthood.

Children learn how to interact with other people while at the youth center. The youth center allows children to be in a safe, learning environment. Here, they can be productive instead of destructive. Not only does an effective youth center contribute to the forming of a child's personality; it also contributes to the physical health of the child. The center gives children the opportunity to be active and competitive. They are able to learn new activities and games.

The youth center should be a fun and productive place for children. This is why I suggest having team sports offered at the center. There would be four seasons for sports. Sports such as basketball, softball, football, and soccer could be offered. Having team sports is a great way for children to make friends and meet new people.

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Competitive sports is also a very successful way to teach children about sportsmanship, responsibility, and respect.

Both boys and girls should be integrated for the teams of the younger children. By teaming them together while they are young, they will learn how to share and get along. Having both genders play together will also help to erase any preconceived notions about each others skill. Participating in team sports at the center will give children the experience needed to play competitively for school teams. Offering team sports will allow children to have fun while building character.

Children aren't the only ones who will benefit from the youth center. Having a youth center will give volunteers the opportunity to give back to their community. The children and adults shouldn't be deprived of the benefits the center has to offer. The children of the community deserve to be given the experience of a quality youth center. I believe including the suggestions previously listed will greatly contribute to the success of the new community youth center.

The writing has an easy flow and rhythm. The paper also displays a ...variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text. For example, "Here, they can be productive instead of destructive" ...has a natural, fluent sound ...that enhances meaning. Reading this paper aloud will highlight its fluency.

Writing

DIRECTIONS:

Write your first draft on the following lines. Look back at the writing prompt and prewriting plan on page 1 as you write your draft.

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DRAFT

Although a youth center is a good idea, often youth centers become an extension of the home. As most teens would tell adults, that should not be the goal of the youth center. When teens leave the house, it is in search of a more relaxed and accepting atmosphere. In order to get more kids involved, that is what the youth center should reflect. Now, in no way, shape or form should the teen center be a new hang-out spot or drug hangout; the community just needs a place for teens to be themselves. This includes relaxed activities, room for spontaneity, and easygoing and compassionate adult aides. If we choose the youth center over perhaps a party, this will be safer and more positive for us. However, no teen will if we don't feel welcome.

To create this environment, the rules should be scarce but firmly established. Consequently, there will be concrete boundaries without being restrictive in nature. In addition, those who enforce the rules need to take a teen's attitude. No one wants to be regarded as an inferior, and it is blatantly obvious to teens when we are not respected. If all we get when we have fun is contemptuous looks and warnings, we won't care enough about the rules to listen on.

Writing**DRAFT**

In regards to these activities there should be some sort of routine. This way, it's not guesswork when a young adult is planning their time. The routine shouldn't be strict, with no room for flexibility, but it must also be fairly consistent. Teens will choose the functions they prefer, and plan their time accordingly.

Although teens may have a preference, it's not difficult to entertain adolescents. Such as ourselves, often, our favorite activities revolve around food, music, and television. If the youth center is a place where kids will bring their friends, it can easily become the hot spot of the area. Movie nights, ice cream parties, barbecues, and other social events are never lackeyed. Also, hosting local bands would attract droves of youth to the area. It would not only be enjoyable, but it would provide youth with a safe environment to watch their friends perform (as opposed to a smoky pub). As a rule of thumb, if it's laid back, it's fun.

The characteristic that so alludes adults is simple. Teens are good at heart. We get into trouble most often as a result of the situation, not because we are 'juvenile delinquents waiting for a chance to instigate chaos'. If there is a place that we can go to be accepted, to have fun, and to be ourselves without criticism, we're there. The youth center should be that place.

Sentences show a high degree of craftsmanship, with consistently strong and varied structure that makes expressive oral reading easy and enjoyable. The sentence beginnings are excellent. "Now, in no way...", "To create this environment...", "As a rule of thumb..." are several that add to the fluency of the paper. The last sentence is short and appropriately effective as closure in seven words: "The youth center should be just that."